The Arts Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 in Community Room A located in City Hall on the 1st floor. Commissioner La Rose called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. followed by the flag salute.

Roll Call

Present

Commissioner Mari Morales, At Large Commissioner Teka-Lark Fleming, District 1 Commissioner Anne La Rose, District 2 Sabrina Barnes, Parks, Recreation and Library Services Director Sandra Green-Hilliard, Senior Administrative Secretary Helen Lessick, Public Art Consultant

Absent

Commissioner David Aguilar, District 3 Commissioner Vicki Perryman-Banks, District 4

Public Comments

None

Approval of the Minutes

Commissioner La Rose made a motion to approve the minutes from November 21, 2012. The minutes were approved as follows:

Ayes: Commissioners Morales, Fleming, La Rose

Nays: None

Old Business

Sabrina Barnes gave a brief verbal report regarding the status of the artistic anti-graffiti grant stating the application was turned in and we anticipate hearing back from the funding source by February 2013. If the city receives the grant the project will begin in April and be completed by the end of the summer.

Helen Lessick gave a report/slideshow presentation and led a discussion on collection management and conservation stating she drafted a scope of work to invite four (4) firms to assess and make recommendations about priorities for

conservation which has been passed along to staff so they can prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP), with the firms being interviewed by staff and Ms. Barnes and then brought to the Commission for recommendation of contracting. Commissioner La Rose asked where we stand with the framing of the tile murals and bronze plaques. Ms. Barnes stated Ms. Lessick has other recommendations regarding the bronze plaques. Commissioner La Rose asked if the tile mural on Locust Street has any damage. Ms. Lessick stated she thinks it can be cleaned and the painted part should be sealed (with a sealant coat to protect it from ultra-violet decay and dirt to protect the paint and ??? the surface).

New Business

Helen Lessick presented a proposal which included a slideshow entitled Inglewood Grants for Artists' Projects (IGAP), a method to fund artists' projects. IGAP is a RFP for artist to initiate projects and suggests having grants at three (3) levels: \$25,000, \$15,000 and \$10,000 to support artists' work at different scales and sizes. As part of the requirements the artist must provide a public cultural benefit. The city will not just give away money. Artists living or maintaining a studio in Inglewood could be given a weighted say in a panel recommendation. Ms. Lessick went on to recommend possible rules, guidelines and a list of a few potential projects of IGAP. Commissioner Fleming thought the idea was great and something the city really needs. Commissioner La Rose stated that she loved the range of possibilities and is looking forward to exploring other varieties of art. Ms. Barnes asked if the Commission was comfortable with the amount categories. Commissioners La Rose and Fleming felt the amounts are fair. Ms. Barnes asked the audience if they had any feedback on the IGAP program. A woman from the audience (***MS. Dawn or Joyce Norfleet***) asked how music would fit into this. Ms. Lessick stated it would be up to the artist to suggest a project and gave examples such as a concert, parade with musicians; it's possible we just need to be able to reach those projects and reminded everyone that this is not a grant program; this is a cultural benefit for the City of Inglewood. Another member from the audience stated that the way the program is presented sounds like it is for the visual arts, it does not sound like it is geared towards performance. Ms. Lessick pointed out it does say performance. Ms. Barnes stated it would be unfair to paint a picture of it being about music because it is not but we are open to other interpretations of what can be public art. We are very much into the visual arts but there are other ways we can explore it and we want to be conscious of best practices in the public art industry. So while we are open to music we cannot promise it will be a major part. Michael Massenburg stated he did like the aspect of the grant and the three (3) levels of grant. Ms. Lessick stated she would proceed and begin developing an RFP with Ms. Barnes and asked in any Commissioners were interested in working with her she would appreciate that. Commissioners Morales and La Rose stated they would love to assist. Ms. Lessick mentioned arts and education for Morales, collection management for La Rose, and support for artists for Fleming. Ms. Lessick shared other regional programs which is part of what she based the IGAP program on. Someone asked where performance spaces in the City of Inglewood are. Commissioner La Rose stated the Waddingham Lecture Hall at the Library and Crozier Middle School Auditorium. Someone asked if the Amphitheater at Vincent Park was available. Sabrina Barnes stated yes and we have a playhouse that is not open to the public at the moment due to repairs needed. What about the Veteran's Building. Ms. Barnes explained that the Veteran's Building is now the temporary sight of the Senior Center until the new one is built. Commissioner La Rose asked for the capacity of the Amphitheater. Ms. Barnes stated roughly 1,200 on the benches and 800 lawn seating. Resident asked about the Fox Theater. Commissioner La Rose stated the Fox Theater is located on Market Street between Regent and Queen Streets. Commissioner La Rose stated she is in the early stages of a conversation with the owners to restore and use it as a multipurpose event venue.

Director's Report

None

Public Comments

Joyce Norfleet stated communication and publicity is very lacking in the city of Inglewood about anything that is going on. Sabrina Barnes asked what she suggests because we in Parks and Rec wrestle with that all of time. We publicize events in the newspaper, on the website, in the water bills and radio advertisement and we will still hear from the public that we didn't hear anything about it. Commissioner La Rose stated it also depends if Council people get involved in helping with outreach. Ms. Barnes stated those who do it we've had great success but it does not capture the entire audience we would love to capture. Helen Lessick stated one of the difficulties government has funding cultural is that government isn't good at advertising and people who look for cultural events don't look at government at providing that. I don't go to your website for that; I go to the Hollywood Bowl or my friends pages. Ms. Barnes stated we need to change that. Commissioner La Rose stated it is an education process that the Arts Commission is here and moving. I as well never find out about anything in a timely fashion and suggested a Facebook page. Commissioner Morales stated she went to the Library and saw the monthly activity calendar and even though I told them that I was interested in receiving the calendar it was sent to me only once. Ms. Lessick stated there will always be someone who doesn't hear about something but we do have to try to do a better job. Commissioner Fleming stated if we have a person who likes to do it and be responsible who will gather all the information and sends it out (a social meeting outreach – a job), people in government need to know that this is a job in itself.

Commissioners' Comments

None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.